

## Message Text

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44-S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 CIEP-03 AID-20

EB-11 TRSE-00 DRC-01 SAM-01 IO-14 IGA-02 /139 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6186

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7542

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: TURK REACTION TO EAGLETON SENSE OF CONGRESS RESOLUTION

1. LATE AFTERNOON SEPT 20 DEFMIN (AND ACTING FONMIN) ISIK CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP CONCERN OVER YESTERDAY'S 64-27 SENATE PASSAGE OF A SENSE OF THE CONGRESS RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO CUT OFF FURTHER MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. I EXPLAINED THAT SUCH A RESOLUTION EVEN IF ALSO PASSED BY THE HOUSE, WAS NOT BINDING ON THE PRESIDENT. I SAID THAT NEVERTHELESS IT IS AN IMPORTANT ACTION WHICH COULD NOT BE BELITTLED, AND I INDICATED THAT I SHARED HIS CONCERN OVER ITS PASSAGE. I ADDED THAT IT WAS A GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION OF HOW DIFFICULT IT HAD BEEN, AND CONTINUES TO BE, FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY TO CARRY OUT THE "EVEN-HANDED" POLICY THAT THEY WERE PURSUING.

2. ISIK SAID THAT HE AND THE PRIMIN UNDERSTOOD THESE PRESSURES AND WERE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR WHAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAD DONE. I SAID THAT I THOUGHT WE MUST BE PREPARED FOR MORE VOTES OF THIS KIND, AND I COULD NOT RULE OUT THAT SOME OF THEM MIGHT HAVE MORE DAMAGING CONSEQUENCES THAN THIS ONE. AT THE SAME TIME, I SAID I KNEW THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WULD DO ALL IT COULD TO MAINTAIN ITS ABILITY TO  
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PERSEVERE IN ITS PRESENT POLICY.

3. ISIK SAID THAT THE PRIMIN AND HE WERE CONFIDENT OF, AND MOST GRATEFUL FOR, THE ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD. NEVERTHELESS, HE THOUGH THAT REPEATED ACTIVITIES OF THIS KIND IN CONGRESS WERE BOUND TO UNDERMINE THE EXCELLENT NEW FEELING TOWARD THE US WHICH HAD RECENTLY DEVELOPED AMONG THE TURKISH PUBLIC. EQUALLY SERIOUS, HE FELT THAT THE EFFECT OF RESOLUTIONS OF THIS KIND WOULD BE TO ENCOURAGE GREECE TO MAINTAIN ITS ADAMANT STANCE. HE SAID THE KEY THING NOW IS TO GET NEGOTIATIONS STARTED AGAIN, BUT IF THE GREEKS COULD SIT BY AND DO NOTHING, AND SEE, AS A RESULT, THE CUTOFF OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY -- THIS WAS HARDLY AN INCENTIVE TO GET THEM BACK TO THE TABLE.

4. HE ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY THAT THE SECRETARY OR THE PRESIDENT, OR SOME OTHER SENIOR OFFICIAL, COULD PUBLICLY REITERATE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH'S OPPOSITION TO THE CUTOFF OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HE ALSO ASKED IF WE HAD ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR GOT AS TO WHAT IT MIGHT DO TO HELP THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH DEAL WITH THE CONGRESS ON THIS ISSUE. I SAID THAT AS FAR AS A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM A SENIOR OFFICIAL WAS CONCERNED, I THOUGH THAT WOULD DEPEND ENTIRELY ON THE JUDGMENT IN WASHINGTON WHETHER IT WAS BETTER TO DO THIS AT THIS TIME, OR TO WORK PRIVATELY BEHIND THE SCENES WITH CONGRESS. IN ANY EVENT, I WENT ON, I WAS SURE THE STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN WOULD BE ASKED FOR A COMMENT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO HIS SECOND QUESTION I SAID THAT IF WE HAD ANY SUGGESTIONS TOMAKE REGARDING STEPS WHICH COULD BE TAKEN BY THE GOT TO STRENGTHENOUR HANDS IN DEALING WITH THE CONGRESS, I WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH HIM.  
MACOMBER

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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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